

Fil and B Patent 97-62

Attorney's Docket No. 021238-513

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Walter A. NICHOLS et al.) Group Art Unit: 1731
Application No.: 10/078,536) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Filed: February 21, 2002) Confirmation No.: 4135
For: CIGARETTE HAVING REDUCED SIDESTREAM SMOKE))
)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-25, 41, 42 and 64 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof and replace Claim 26 as follows:

smoke between puffs, comprising:

a first layer of material adapted to be formed around smoking material; and a second layer of material formed around said first layer, wherein said second layer reduces combustion of said smoking material between puffs, wherein said first layer is more combustible than said second layer when exposed to thermal energy generated by said smoking material.